



W A R T B U R G

TRUMPET

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Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence

February 6, 2006

May Term meal plan modified

By LAURA GREVAS
Assistant News Editor

Students on board will see some changes in their meal plans this May Term.

All students, excluding those on the Knights Village meal plan, will receive 17 meals a week for the first three weeks and 14 meals the final week of school. They will also be given 20 non-refundable points for use during May Term.

Those on the Knights Village meal plan will continue to receive five meals a week and will get 25 points for May Term.

An additional change concerns the number of meals served. There will be 19 meals served per week in place of 20, with a Saturday brunch replacing breakfast and lunch.

In keeping with current policy, students who will be off-campus with a college-related activity for five or more consecutive days can apply for a refund through the dining services office.

Dining Services has been working on how to

best alter the meal plan to fit students' needs since the additional charge for May Term room and board was added last year, Margaret Empie, director of Dining Services, said.

"The pricing was already set when I got here," she said. "If we were to have had a meal plan that kept the prices per meal similar to prices during the rest of the year, students would have ended up with about 11 meals per week."

The Student Relations Committee and Student Center Council looked at two plans proposed by Dining Services, and the 17-meal plan was the one they recommended to Student Senate and Empie.

"It's cheapest per meal... It just makes the most sense," senior Erin Grandgenett, Student Center Council president, said.

The other proposed plan would have continued the current meal plans, only with a different amount of points given to students on the pick-15 and smaller plans, adjusted according to the length of May Term.

According to Empie,

there are several advantages to the new plan.

"Knowing that in May people's schedules change, [the 17-meal plan] would give people more flexibility," she said. "The majority of students who eat as if they have their present plan will still be paying less per meal than they did during Winter Term."

"It's nice for freshmen because they haven't had points all year," Grandgenett said.

All unused points from Winter Term will roll over into May Term. The 20 or 25 non-refundable points will be spent before the unused points from Winter Term. All Winter Term points left at the end of the school year will be refunded.

Students will not need to change their meal plans. They will be changed automatically to the 17- or five-meal plan.

The last meal will be served Friday, May 26, but seniors are invited to the graduation breakfast buffet on Sunday, May 28.

E-mail Laura Grevas at
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Roland Ferrie/TRUMPET

MAKING MASKS—Freshmen Rachel Hartz and Angela Hanson make masks at the Casino Night sponsored by A.W.A.R.E. Saturday night.

BSU plans events for Black History Month

By JESSICA NYSTEL
Staff Writer

Wartburg's celebration of Black History Month will begin tonight with an open house featuring music, food and games from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Hub.

Senior LaRicia Nelson, president of Black Student Union, said there will also be a movie night Thursday, featuring "Redemption: The Stan Tookie Williams Story." The movie focuses on the life of Williams, who co-founded the Crips street gang and later became an anti-gang advocate while on death row.

The group Seed Planters will visit campus Saturday, Feb. 18, to focus on the theme of community building, and there will be a soul food dinner in the Mensa Thursday, Feb. 23. Black History Month will wrap up with open mic night Monday, Feb. 28.

Nelson hopes the Wartburg community will come to the events with an open mind and learn more about black history.

"I think if Wartburg wants to continue to claim that it is diverse, then more people should

want to be educated," she said. "Learning never stops, and students, staff, faculty and especially the administration should want to be educated and be involved with events that promote diversity."

Although Black History Month is important, Dr. Peter Nash, professor of religion, thinks there is still a long way to go to achieve racial equality.

"Racial justice is not on the national agenda," he said. "Many people consider it resolved when the truth is we're so far from a level playing field."

Nash would also like Black History Month to focus on the history of people in the Caribbean and coast of Latin America "where every nation has descendants of slave population."

The observance of Black History Month dates back to 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson wanted to make mainstream America more aware of black history. Woodson originally chose the second week in February—coinciding with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln—to celebrate what was then known as Negro History Week. Over time, the week evolved into a month-

long celebration of black history.

Black History Month is not without controversy, however. There are debates about the benefit of just one designated month dedicated to black history. Actor Morgan Freeman's criticism in a recent "60 Minutes" interview, called the concept "ridiculous" and said, "Black history is American history."

To Nelson, it's important to celebrate the month "just because of the work and accomplishment [of] many black people."

"Black history is important to me because it's a part of who I am," she said. "It's my history, and it feels good knowing I come from a long line of intelligent, creative, hard-working, beautiful people. I take pride in that."

With the recent deaths of several key civil rights figures, Nash hopes there will be new leaders to "fill the gaps."

"Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King passing reminds us that that generation is almost entirely gone. [This] places extra importance on black future rather than black history," he said.

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Celebrate Black History Month



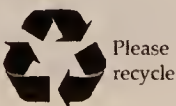
- 8 to 10 p.m. tonight: Open house in the Hub
- 8:30 p.m. Thursday: Movie night in the ballrooms
- 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18: Seed Planters community building in the ballrooms
- 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23: Soul Food Dinner in the Mensa
- 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 28: Open mic night in the ballrooms

Graphic by Sayumi Abe

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Where's the Miss Wartburg?

By COREY HELLAND
Columnist

We've officially entered the age of gender political correctness, especially at a liberal arts college. Policemen are also referred to as police-women. Likewise, mailmen are mailwomen. In our RE 101 course, our professors repeatedly stressed the importance of keeping God genderless—God is God, not He or Him.

Why then, might I ask, at a college that stresses political correctness as much as Wartburg, is there a Mr. Wartburg competition but not a Miss Wartburg?

In this contest to determine the ultimate male Wartburg student, the participants are isolated, scrutinized and humiliated. These young

men are forced to "strut their stuff" in the front of a packed Neumann Auditorium. The aptly named round usually means contestants try to make a fool of themselves.

It's all in good fun, true, and the proceeds go for a good cause (Cedar Valley Friends of the Family), but questions still remain: why all men and no women?

We have both a Homecoming king and queen. The student body president can be either male or female. Yet, this competition that decides who can be the most "Wartburg" is still reserved for the guys. So why don't the feminists rise up and try to fight for equality? In this case, they don't want it.

It's so ironic when a double standard like this emerges. The public outcry would be overpowering if the Tower Agency changed

the competition to Miss Wartburg, or even a Mr. and Miss Wartburg. It's socially acceptable for men to compete against each other in a glorified beauty pageant. There's even a formal wear round, for Pete's sake! Enter women into the equation, however, and the perspective changes.

A few days ago, I discussed this issue with a particularly outspoken feminist student. It was her assessment that the Mr./Miss Wartburg competition would fail with females mainly because most people just don't find women humorous.

True, a woman dressing as a cowboy doesn't have near the amount of comedic value as Alek Wiperman dressing as a western woman. Likewise, it would be different for a female to perform on stage nearly naked from the waist up, wearing only two miniature cowboy hats strategically positioned on her upper body, than it

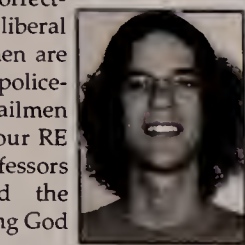
was for Scott Kempel last Monday night. Somehow the connotations of a female wearing such an outfit are different than for a male. Suddenly the competition takes on a whole new flavor.

Still, I believe such a competition could work and should be implemented. The contestants for Mr. Wartburg have a tremendous amount of courage. They prance about the stage like ninnies all for a meaningless title and a cheap paper crown. I see no reason why females cannot join in the "fun."

My feminist friend thinks society doesn't believe that females can carry the comedic weight like the male students can. Is it true that the male gender is comedically superior? The only way to tell is if females are allowed to participate.

E-mail Corey.Helland at
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Editor's Note: In 2003, females were included in the contest, renamed Knights Challenge.



Knight Writer

Lack of funding hinders student May Term experiences abroad

By JEREMY PEDERSON
Columnist

May Term abroad is often one of the most memorable experiences that many students have at Wartburg. This unique time gives students who otherwise may never have traveled anywhere outside of the country an opportunity to see and experience another culture in another place. In this increasingly interdependent world, understanding other cultures is essential for all students.

However, while these May Term travel opportunities provide incredible learning experiences, their high costs prevent many from participating. In order to participate in most, a student would have to pay thousands of dollars. While completely justifiable, there are few avenues where a student could find financial aid. Indeed, to pay for such an experience, May Term financial aid offers only Stafford loans, short-term loans or alternative loans. Unless a student is participating in a Dier's program, no other extra financial aid exists. While these loans do help some students afford a May Term abroad, they still force students to eventually pay for the experience with their own money and therefore, they avoid the bigger issue that some students would not be able to go on such a trip solely because of cost. Therefore, with little to no non-loan financial aid, the extra expenses



occurred on either a May Term trip cause many of these trips to be out of reach to many students—students who probably would have been benefited the most from a May Term experience.

I find the inability of students most likely to benefit from a May Term experience because of prohibitive costs to be quite disturbing. However, with the Senior Class Challenge, I now see an opportunity to make a small positive impact that the administration could match or follow.

If these abroad experiences are considered an essential element of a liberal arts education, we need to make sure that all students—not just the ones who could easily pay for it upfront or in a short period—would be able to participate in such experiences. If Wartburg likes to talk and brag about its travel opportunities, it should also support the additional financial burden that traveling abroad brings on many students.

For this, I call on the administration to start a fund that would specifically give students who otherwise would not be able to travel the opportunity of a lifetime. As part of this, I would then ask that seniors, as part of the Senior Class Challenge, give the starting dollars for this new fund.

In this ever smaller global village, traveling abroad as offered by the many May Term opportunities is increasingly essential to learn about the world beyond our nation. Let us—students, faculty, staff and administration—all make sure that future students have this same opportunity to travel so they, too, can learn about themselves and their world.

E-mail Jeremy Pederson at Jeremy.Pederson@wartburg.edu

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I attended the presidential debate on Jan. 31 and was appalled by the low number of students in attendance. I would like to encourage my peers to take the upcoming election seriously.

Voting is an important process, but the process of forming an educated opinion before voting is even more important. A person's vote means nothing if it is not supported by an educated opinion.

As the election nears, please put more effort into making a wise decision rather than an easy decision.

Ashley Richards '07

Dear Editor:

For four years I have read OP/ED pieces in the Trumpet that have raised my pulse and blood pressure. Finally I have been pushed over the edge by the suggestion by Jon Palmquist that the War on Terror is somehow a "battle of...religions."

How is this a battle between religions? The leaders of the mainline denominations urged the President to reconsider this war in Iraq,

which Bush has called the front-line of the War on Terror, though he refused to sit down and hear their advice. The Pope called the Iraq war a defeat for humanity. The Christian religious leaders don't conceive of this as a war with religious backing.

Neither is this war waged by religious bodies. The United States is a secular government; it's in the constitution (i.e. the no establishment clause). I do admit that the "terrorists" claim a religious backing—radical Islamic fundamentalism, an extreme minority among the world's religions and a small minority among Muslims today.

Thus, this isn't a war between Christianity and Islam. If it is a war between religions, as Palmquist so succinctly states, then it is a war between the religion of American Nationalism, with its saints the founding fathers and its Gospel the constitution, and the radical minority religion of Extreme Islamic Fundamentalism. The War on Terrorism, and in my opinion any war, can never be conceived of as something that Christians, with their saints and Gospel so wholeheartedly speaking out against violence, would endorse and carry out.

TJ Raymer '06

President, Amnesty International

Staff Editorial:

Tune in to Senate elections

Running mates have been selected and platforms have been drafted. Last Tuesday, four two-person tickets hoping to become the next student body president and vice president gathered to debate the issues relevant to life at Wartburg College.

For any presidential hopefuls nervous about speaking in front of large groups, this debate offered nothing to fear. Of the 1,800-plus Wartburg students, only 15 or so found their way to the Lyceum for Tuesday night's debate. In fact, the number of debate participants (candidates, interview panel, WTV-8 crew and moderator) outnumbered those in the audience.

Several reasons may explain the low turnout, and blame lies with the debate organizers, student leaders and apathetic student body as a whole.

Of course, President Bush's State of the Union address was scheduled at the same time and was required viewing for some classes. Students may have chosen to watch rather than attend the debate, especially since Bush's agenda may have more of an impact on the lives of Wartburg students than the would-be student body president's platform.

Senate's lack of power may have also made students uninterested in the election. Senate does allocate funds to student organizations, but on issues affecting the college as a whole, Senate's ultimate power is limited. Any proposed changes must be approved by the appropriate administrator and/or the Board of Regents.

Take this year, for example. A major selling point of the platform of president Matt Lamos and vice president Ashley Weets was increasing wages for students working on campus. They drafted a resolution which overwhelmingly passed Senate. Yet it remains to be seen if next year's students will see a raise in their monthly paychecks. The student wage resolution must now go through President Ohle and be approved by the Board of Regents this spring.

While revenue generated from current students represents more than 80 percent of the college's budget, the ability for students to have a say in regard to campus governance is limited to recommendation. Despite its lack of power, Senate is still the voice of the student body and dedicated to serving student needs. Students need to be active, not apathetic, in the choice of the executive team which will represent them in the upcoming year. Electing leaders who will fairly represent students and enact change is a must.

If you weren't one of the few students at Tuesday's debate, tune in to Wartburg Television on channel 8 this week. Don't vote in the upcoming election unless you are informed about the candidates that will best represent students. Unless the pair of elected leaders is able to increase the role of Wartburg's student government, you might as well vote for the candidates who will benefit most from putting student body president or vice president on their résumés.

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CALENDAR

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DISCLAIMER

Views expressed on the OP/ED page are those of the editorial board and not necessarily those of the administration, faculty or staff of Wartburg College. Columns are the opinions of the writer and not the paper.

TRUMPET OBJECTIVES

The Trumpet is committed to accurate, fair and comprehensive coverage of campus events and issues that affect the Wartburg community.

TRUMPET LETTER POLICY

Letters to the editor are subject to editing without changing the meaning of the letter. Authors will not be notified of changes prior to publishing. Letters must be signed, fewer than 250 words, submitted by 5 p.m. Thursday and related to current issues involving the Wartburg community. Letters may be sent to the communication arts office or e-mailed to trumpet@wartburg.edu. Please type "Letter to the Editor" as the subject line. All publication is at the discretion of the Editor.

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"Waves" event floods college

By ALLISON SCHMIDT
Editor-in-Chief

The second annual Waves of Love benefit dinner will take place Friday, Feb. 17, in the Castle Room of the Student Center. This year's event, organized by Student Senate, will raise funds to assist in rebuilding the Bethlehem Children's Center in New Orleans. Fifteen percent of the funds will stay in the Cedar Valley to benefit local charities.

Last year's inaugural event was planned in response to the tsunami in Southeast Asia. The dinner and other fund-raising efforts raised more than \$5,000, with 85 percent going to Lutheran World Relief and 15 percent for Cedar Valley charities.

Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in September 2005, Student Senate saw the opportunity to continue the benefit this year.

"We felt the efforts done last year were so successful we could only continue the student drive initiative," junior Amanda Pullin, academic ombudperson and event coordinator, said. "We felt such service was needed on the campus—to look beyond our own personal and community needs and see the real world of needs."

Waves of Love committee member junior Eva Sersland was also eager to help with planning the event.

"I wanted to do anything I could to help the people affected by Hurricane Katrina," she said, "and I thought that this was a good way to help out even though I'm so many miles away."

This year's event will include a silent auction reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. The program, emceed by KWWL news anchor Ann Kerian, begins at 7 p.m. and will include a slideshow from a Wartburg Television documentary shot in New Orleans, speeches from Bethlehem Children's Center service trip leaders and speeches from sophomore Eric Scallan and freshman Tony Bridges who were affected by the disaster. The program will also feature door prizes and music from a member of the Wartburg Community Symphony.

Pullin also encourages those who cannot attend the dinner to purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to win "Starry Knight," a painting in the style of Vincent Van Gogh's work featuring the Wartburg campus donated by student artist junior Matthew Ollendick.

"This year we wanted to add a way for everyone to be involved, [even if] they



Photo Courtesy of Communications and Marketing

PAINTING FOR LOVE—Junior Matthew Ollendick poses with his painting "Starry Knight" in the style of Van Gogh. He is raffling off his painting to help raise money for the Waves of Love fund-raiser.

could not afford the dinner ticket's cost, were not able to come to the event, or plain were not interested in the dinner," Pullin said. "By having the raffle, anyone is able to donate even just a dollar."

Ollendick painted "Starry Knight" specifically for Waves of Love.

"I am able to somehow bring about change to people many miles away just by placing some oil on a canvas," Ollendick said. "I am very happy and excited to see how much money is raised for the shelter that will be rebuilt."

The painting can be viewed in the Student Senate office in the Hub. Raffle tickets cost \$1 and may be purchased through Thursday, Feb. 16, by contacting wavesoflove@wartburg.edu or Ext. 8393.

The cost of the meal is \$28 per person, and additional donations are welcome. Child care will be provided by the Social Work Club. Those who want to attend should e-mail wavesoflove@wartburg.edu to make reservations by Friday.

E-mail Allison Schmidt at Allison.Schmidt@wartburg.edu

Attend Waves of Love

RSVP by Friday to
wavesoflove@wartburg.edu

Include the following information:

- Number of guests
- Number of children for childcare and their age(s)
- Any dietary needs

Make checks payable to
"Waves of Love" and send to:

Amanda Pullin
Box 247 Wartburg College
100 Wartburg Blvd.
Waverly, IA 50677

Black History Month Fact

George Washington Carver:

Carver (1865-1943) was a scientist, educator, humanitarian and former slave. He developed hundreds of products that improved Southern agriculture. Among the many things he invented were a rubber substitute, adhesives, foodstuffs, dyes and pigments.

Information provided by BSU

Knights want to Know

Q: When does Dairy Queen open for the season?

A: It opened last week in time for Valentine's Day.

Q: What's the most boring state?

A: An informal poll has Nebraska as the most boring state, followed by North Dakota and Iowa. No states east of the Mississippi were mentioned for consideration. Poll results are not scientifically valid.

Send your burning questions to
trumpet@wartburg.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

SENIOR CLASS VEGAS NIGHT

Make a pledge to the Senior Class Challenge and attend Senior Vegas Night from 8 to 11 p.m. Monday in the Student Center. It's a night of poker, bingo, blackjack and pick-up card games. The poker tournament begins at 8:15. Those attending will receive a gift of playing cards, and more than \$500 in prizes will be awarded.

HOUSING FORUM MONDAY

A forum to address changes to Wartburg's off-campus housing policy will take place at 7 p.m. Monday in WBC 214.

BLOOD DRIVE DONORS NEEDED

The Tri-Beta Blood Drive will take place from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday in Players Theatre. Sign up online at www.blood-centerofiowa.org with the organization name of Wartburg College, or e-mail Leah.Muhle@wartburg.edu to sign up.

QUIZ BOWL ON THURSDAY

The annual Quiz Bowl will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Whitehouse Business Center. It is sponsored by International Club and International Programs.

LEARN HOW TO PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULT

Young women will speak about the realities of sexual assault on college campuses at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, in the Lyceum. The "Let's Talk about IT" program offers solutions for improved campus awareness and safety. E-mail Sonci.Kingery@wartburg.edu for more information.

SERVICE TRIPS TO HOST SILENT AUCTION

The Baltimore and San Bernardino service trips will offer a silent auction Monday through Saturday, in the Student Center by the Hub. Stop by to place your bids on these items.

Clarification: In the Jan. 23 story "Senior Class Challenge fund-raising effort starts," the minimum \$10 pledge is considered a "gift" not a "fee." The Senior Night will take place in the Knights and St. Elizabeth ballrooms. In addition, students do not pick up the gift of playing cards; they will be delivered.

Accounting students help taxpayers

By SNEHA PRADHAN
Staff Writer

A group of senior Wartburg accounting students is providing a service to low-income taxpayers to prepare their federal and state income taxes free through the Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The VITA service began on Jan. 26 and will continue through April 6 under the direction of Paul Magnall, associate professor of business administration and accounting, who has worked with the program since 1997. The service takes place every Thursday from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. on the lower level of Vogel Library.

"They basically can have their tax return prepared for free as opposed to going to H&R Block or one of the other tax preparers or to try and do it on their own," Magnall said. "Most of the tax returns that we do are very simple, straightforward. If they are too complicated, our students just won't

do them. They'll send them to professional paid tax preparers to do them."

The service is advertised in the Courier and the Waverly newspapers. The service has been getting successful feedback from the people who are mostly from Waverly, Janesville and Shell Rock and also Wartburg students.

VITA students must have completed the first income tax course offered in the Fall Term.

Those currently involved in the second tax class have to spend at least one hour per week at the site preparing tax returns.

"I want the students to have some workings with clients, and they're usually not the types of people that they would do after they graduate in terms of their income and so forth," Magnall

said. "So I think it's a service, and I want students to understand that regardless of where they're at, they should be able to provide service to the community. Many of these people

"It's a great opportunity for us as accounting students to get experience with filling out tax returns..."

—Senior Renae Vomacka

have incomes below \$15,000 and really can't afford to have somebody do that, so I think it's a good idea to provide that service free."

The service usually assists and prepares about 100 tax returns, of which about 20 are students'; the rest are community members'.

"In terms of the people that we help, many of our clients are repeat," Magnall said. "They've been coming year after year, and they'll call me in January saying, 'So when is it going to start?' So they're apparently satisfied because many of them are coming back year after year to get assistance."

Senior Rhonda Harmening, assisting in the VITA service, describes the feedback from the taxpayers as "positive."

"It gives back. It helps the community out. Since the community gives some to Wartburg College, it kind of gives a free community service base back to the community," Harmening said. "It gives me valuable work experience like dealing with income taxes."

Senior Renae Vomacka, also assisting in the VITA service, said it has been "really helpful" and the people "love it."

"It's a great opportunity for us as accounting students to get experience with filling out tax returns, as well as an opportunity to help the community members that maybe can't afford to pay for tax assistance, or just to provide a nice tax free service," Vomacka said. "They are completely thankful for it being done and just love it and they come back every year for it."

E-mail Sneha Pradhan at Sneha.Pradhan@wartburg.edu



Roland Ferrie/TRUMPET

MR. WARTBURG—Senior Broderick "BT" Tolbert performs ribbon dancing to the "Circle of Life" in the talent portion of Monday's Mr. Wartburg competition. Tolbert won the annual competition becoming the first black winner in the history of the event.

TV show has Wartburg connection

By ERICA SWANSON
KnightLife Editor

Donna Stork, originally from Grundy Center and a Wartburg graduate, is the mother of TV's newest bachelor. Her son, Dr. Travis Stork, is the star of ABC's "The Bachelor: Paris."

Stork graduated from Wartburg and went on to teach English in Austin, Minn. Later, she moved to Fort Collins, Colo., where she married her husband. She is now retired and living in North Carolina.

Since the show began airing, the newspapers in towns she has lived in have run stories about Stork and her son. Obviously, she is not allowed to talk about what happens on the show, but she was willing to talk about her son's qualities and abilities, saying,

"He has had an unbelievable life."

She is proud of Travis' academic accomplishments. After graduating magna cum laude from Duke University and receiving his M.D. from the University of Virginia, he began a residency at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn. According to his mother, he is adventurous and "loves the outdoors," including biking, kayaking and mountain climbing. "He's just always been an inquisitive, intelligent young man," she said.

According to Stork, her son became the "bachelor" after a scout stopped him in the streets of Nashville. After some persuasion, he flew to Los Angeles to talk to studio executives.

Part of the show will include Stork herself. Each show includes the chance for the final two contestants to meet the bachelor's family. Since the show takes place in Paris, she got to

spend a full week in France with her husband and other family members meeting the final two women selected by her son.

According to Stork, the visit to Paris was "just such an unbelievable experience."

She adds that it is a "surreal event watching it on TV." Normally, she and her husband watch it by themselves in their home. Filming wrapped up prior to Thanksgiving, so she has had to keep the ending a secret for about three months already.

"The Bachelor: Paris," which began mid-January, airs Mondays at 9 p.m. on ABC. A two-hour finale will wrap up the show with the bachelor's choice in late February.

E-mail Erica Swanson at
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Caf workers in demand

By JACKIE MANTERNACH
Staff Writer

Dining Services is in need of student workers due to students only working a few hours a week.

"I could get more hours, but I don't want any more," sophomore Jenna Reece, who works in the Den, said.

Although they have approximately 20 more workers than last year, they are not filling the time needed.

"When [student] workers don't work more than three to four hours a week, it takes more people to fill the time slots," Margaret Empie, director of Dining Services, said.

The lack of help is noticeable to those students who do work in Dining Services.

"Friday dinners in the Mensa are understaffed due to students refusing to work," freshman Julie Scheibel, who works in the Mensa, said. There's also a lack of help for most evening meals because of conflicts with practices for sports and other group meetings.

Dining Services has been trying to recruit more student workers since the beginning of the school year without much success. Students are discouraged by pay.

"[Dining Services] doesn't appeal to me, and I'm OK financially, so I don't need it to get by," freshman Rachel Hartz said.

"I don't want to work for the school because it's not enough money," freshman Brooke Pevny said.

All work-study students are paid minimum wage at \$5.15 an hour, with a 10-cent raise each year a student stays in that department. Two hundred and fifty of 1,073 student jobs on campus are in Dining Services.

When students quit Dining Service jobs, it is usually to take advantage of other opportunities on campus.

"That's why students come to Wartburg," Jan Hyde, student employment coordinator for Dining Services, said. "It's understandable if a student can get a job working with computer when that's his or her major. Students are here for an education, not for food services."

Despite these reasons, workers are still needed. With the lack of help, workers may cover several stations instead of one and do work they don't know very much about.

"We could end up not being able to properly receive food or produce food because we don't have our student employees to help us," Empie said. "If we are short-staffed, managers are doing tasks all the time and they don't have time to train people the way they should."

"It puts a burden on everyone else because you have to cover extra jobs," Reece said.

Dining Services does want to provide good service for students and an enjoyable work environment for their workers, but both of these groups suffer when students aren't working enough hours.

Advantages to working in Dining Services include location, flexible hours and extra pay. It also looks good on a resume to have a job working with others, in addition to other college responsibilities.

"When people work together, you need to cooperate, and you develop a skill.... At times, it's stressful. This can be an opportunity to practice handling that stress... Students leave, and it gives them an edge," Empie said.

Contact Janice.Hyde@wartburg.edu for opportunities.

E-mail Jackie Manternach at Jackie.Manternach@wartburg.edu

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Podcasting Possibilities

Graphic by Sayumi Abe

By KATIE MEYER
Staff Writer

Students walking around with iPods or portable music devices have become a familiar sight on Wartburg's campus, so it comes as no surprise that students are also familiar with the term "podcasting." Wartburg TV8 is the first college broadcaster in Iowa to provide podcasts of its original programming via the Internet.

Just to clarify, podcasting is "a way to send an entire program to a portable device," Dr. Jeff Stein, professor of communication arts, said.

The WTV8 podcasts offers 22-minute audio versions of WTV8 News, SportsKnight and KnightWatch. Stein said that these podcasts provide an alternative for people unable to watch the video versions. Though the visual element is missing from these podcasts, the convenience of having content at the click of the mouse, as well as portability, allows for a bit of a trade-off. "We are currently unable to stream the entire news and sports shows with video. However, we plan to add video clips from the various shows in the coming weeks," WTV8 webmaster senior Jeff Hackbarth said.

"One reason that podcasting is beneficial for the station is because we were the first college in the state to podcast

our programming," Hackbarth said. "It might catch the attention of prospective students who are interested in the things we're doing here at Wartburg. It's beneficial for the students because the stories and reporting they do are now able to be heard from almost anywhere in the world."

Stein said he knows people aren't rushing to their computer screens to download WTV8's latest podcast. "We're not under the illusion that people are walking around campus listening to SportsKnight," Stein said, but WTV8 would much rather be ahead of the game than behind it. That way, when people do need to turn to their computers for something such as a podcast, WTV8 will be ready.

From a technological standpoint, Stein is pleased with the way WTV8 podcasting has been working. "We were pushing the technology," he said, "and we thought this was another way to be in the forefront of this new world of technology." In addition, Stein is glad that it is a service the station can offer.

Podcasting is not just affecting WTV8. It is revolutionizing the media industry as well. Services such as podcasting give consumers control over what they listen to as well as when they choose to listen; in the past, the content providers had control.

One possible reason for this shift in control can be accredited to iPods, which are already in their fifth generation, thanks to the iPod Nano and iPod Shuffle. The first

iPod sprang forth in 2001, with an initial cost of \$399 and a five-gigabyte hard drive. Now, iPods cost around \$299 to \$399 and house a 30- to 60-gigabyte hard drive. In addition to storing music, the newest versions of iPod play video on a two-and-a-half inch screen.

Junior Chris Carlson bought his iPod to store music and eliminate the hassle of carrying around CDs. Now, with all the new features available on iPods, Carlson said, "I wish I would have researched them a little more because soon after I got mine, Apple came out with a color display version." Although Carlson's iPod doesn't have a color display screen, he still said that it serves its purpose.

Sophomore Mitch Coffman agreed that having some of the newer features on his iPod would be nice, but he also said, "They are a little excessive, I think."

When it comes to podcasting, however, Coffman doesn't think he'll be bothering with that anytime soon. "I don't really see the point. But it could change in a few years, I suppose."

Following that same line, junior Mallory Willems said, "I hope to get into podcasting eventually. I just don't have much use for it now because I am not really on the go and needing news in my car and such." However, Willems said she thinks that it's a great new way to get news.

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Marine's wife balances school and husband

By KAREN CONNELLY
Staff Writer

Getting married at age 20 was never in her long-range plans. But for senior history education major Miranda (Spurgeon) Haugan, things don't always go the way she intends.

She met Matt Haugan at a church dance in the fall of her junior year of high school. Less than a year after the two started dating, and 12 days before Sept. 11, 2001, he enlisted in the Marines.

"I knew in high school that I wanted to keep him. He's as much of a goofball as I am, and he's my best friend in the entire world. I've never been able to talk to someone so easily, and I've never had someone care about me as deeply as he does. That's how I knew he was the one," Haugan said. "That and he's hot," she added with a grin.

They were engaged in December of her first year of college and planned to get married after Haugan graduated. But things changed when they learned Matt was going to be deployed to Iraq.

The two were married by a judge in a small ceremony on July 4, 2004, just a month before he left.

"We knew we were going to get married eventually anyway," Haugan said. "We knew that we always wanted to have that. If something would've happened and we would have never gotten married... it was just something we wanted to do before he left."

When Matt got back to the States, the two decided to have a church wedding, which more of their family and friends were able to attend.

Haugan has seen Matt through boot

camp, a seven-month deployment to Djibouti, Africa, and is now enduring his absence during his second tour in Iraq.

"The biggest challenge of all is living with the fact that he's not safe," Haugan said. "He had two roadside bombs go off under his vehicle in two weeks in November."

Matt walked away from both bombings, and Haugan says her faith is one of the things that helps her get by.

"There are so many circumstances, especially when it comes to Matt, that are completely beyond my control. You've got to trust that someone else does have that under control," Haugan said. "After two roadside bombs in two weeks, I told him, 'You know someone's looking out for you.'"

Haugan has linked her faith to her experiences at Wartburg through her involvement with Habitat for Humanity. A former vice president and Campus Ministry Board representative for Habitat, she currently enjoys working on building houses in Waverly for those in need.

"We worked in Waterloo and Cedar Falls quite a bit too, but to see it directly impact the community that you've become a part of is pretty amazing," Haugan said.

In addition to faith, Haugan has also been a priority for Haugan. She plays clarinet in the Wind Ensemble, has been a part of the pep band for Wartburg football games and is proud to be a charter member of the hand bell choir formed two years ago.

The faculty, students and Wartburg atmosphere have all had an impact on her. She appreciates the fact that professors know her name, know who she is and know about her family.

"People really care here," she said. "It's genuine."

As for the Wartburg atmosphere, even while spending a semester abroad in Scotland, Haugan and her roommate, Wartburg senior Sara Tasker, celebrated Outfly.

When she came to Wartburg, Haugan's intentions were to be a high school history teacher, but her focus and direction has shifted toward research.



Photo courtesy of Miranda Haugan

A SECOND WEDDING—Senior Miranda Haugan remarries her husband Matt on June 4, 2005.

Haugan has been studying pirates, with an emphasis on Blackbeard, since her sophomore year. She has given numerous presentations on her findings and will be presenting at two conferences this spring.

Also, she will speak at the Philosophical and Literary Society at Joe's KnightHawk at 4 p.m. on Friday and to the history club Thursday, Feb. 16.

Pursuing two directions simultaneously—research and education—Haugan is now in her sixth week student teaching ninth grade U.S. history and a high school course called Developing Nations in the Cedar Falls School District.

She calls teaching a "series of triumphs and tragedies." The biggest triumph is getting her students to triumph.

"It's just finding ways for them to actually apply it to their life or get the best out of them," Haugan said. "There's so much

more to teaching than content."

As for tragedies, "I don't think there are many Wartburg students who can say they got in a car accident with their supervising teacher," Haugan said.

But other than that, she says there hasn't been anything too dramatic. "Nothing that I can't laugh at," she said with a smile.

Haugan is still deciding whether to be a teacher or go on to graduate school. Matt is going to college, and whatever Haugan chooses to do with her life, he has told her, "I'll be right here behind you."

"It was really sweet," Haugan said. "To have that, I'm so grateful. He's willing to let me pursue my dream, whatever direction that takes us."

E-mail Karen Connelly at
Karen.Connelly@wartburg.edu

Senior
Spotlight

2006

Meet the Candidates

2006 Senate Executive Elections

Vote on eVote Feb. 14!

President Vice President



Justin Harken
Junior



Eric Benson
Sophomore

The basic premise of our platform is "Bringing the students back to Student Senate." Our agenda includes:

- A monthly e-mail from Senate to the student body.
- A State of the Wartburg address at the end of each term that explains what Senate has done for that term.
- Two types of forums: The first type would be between students and the executive team. The second type of forum will be a continuation of the forums started this fall between administrators and students.
- Make the administration more visible to the student body.
- Reach out to active organizations to better reach students.

President Vice President



Scott Kempel
Junior



Katie Jo Kuhens
Junior

Platform: Review and possible revision of the plan of Essential Education.

Other thoughts: Kempel and Kuhens feel that students' voices should and need to be listened to. We have the wit and tenacity to give students that voice.

We are fun and motivated and intend to rub this off on the student body and on Senate as well. The horse doesn't move unless you get down and slap it on the butt sometimes. In other words, the administration doesn't always listen, and sometimes you need to push the envelope and step out of the box to motivate change.

President Vice President



Eva Sersland
Junior



Jon Palmquist
Junior

Bring the ABCs back to Wartburg: accountability, broad involvement, communication.

- Hold students and faculty accountable for being able to freely discuss their thoughts and opinions in the classroom.
- Bring leaders of campus organizations together to make events more successful.
- Student Senate should be more of a resource of ideas and support instead of just a source of funds.
- Continue the mission that Waves of Love and UKnight have set by uniting campus around one cause for the year.
- Improve the relationship between students and administration through active communication.
- We will go to residence halls each month to hold "round-table" discussions.

President Vice President



Erin Moran
Junior



Erin Wright
Junior

We offer a simple formula: $E^2 = WC^3$. Not only do we share the same first name, but also the same great vision for Wartburg College. By connecting students to other students, staff, faculty and administration, we learn to cooperate. Through this cooperation, the community at Wartburg will be strengthened.

We provide original insight to accomplish this vision and will continue to do so:

- Participation in off-campus events arranged by ETK.
- Meetings led by Senators in Res Halls.
- Trumpet reports on state, national and world news.
- Calendar display of campus events.
- Senior class trip.

Recorder Candidate

As student body recorder I will increase communication between Student Senate and the student body. I will continue recording and dispersing minutes, re-introduce the Senate Focus in the Trumpet and Page and introduce brief summaries into campus stalls called The Flush. Vote Amanda Pullin, Vote for Amazing Persistence!



Amanda Pullin
Junior

Treasurer Candidate

- Highly involved student-athlete with academic honors
- Excellent financial, communication, mathematical, and leadership skills

- Desires to utilize students' money fully and effectively for the benefit of all students
- Dedicated to serving the student body
- Has served as president, vice president and treasurer in organizations



Brian Borchers
Junior

Treasurer Candidate

I am running for Senate treasurer so I can offer my 20 years of experience in the field but also to get to know you.

I want to present my objective, non-traditional thinking to assist you in your experience as you find your way down the path we refer to here as Be Orange!



Elizabeth Hancock
Sophomore

Treasurer Candidate

As treasurer my goals are:

- To make sure that organizations/students receive funding for learning activities outside the classroom.
- Help keep the lines of communication about financing open between students, Senate and administration.
- Students should be able to know what their money is being used for and why.



Jodi Kempel
Freshman

Treasurer Candidate

• "Student Senate Budget: Wartburg Money = Wise Management."

• Making sure funds are channeled toward meeting relevant needs of clubs, organizations and individuals.

• Cooperation and open communication with other senators with diverging opinions on budget-related issues.

• Providing an informed, objective and clear explanation of each budget-related decision.



Iana Stahov
Sophomore



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Fond Farewell: Wrestlers leave Knights Gym with pair of wins

By RICHARD PODHAJSKY
Sports Editor

The Wartburg wrestling team gave Knights Gym a fitting goodbye Saturday, crushing No. 19-ranked Coe 41-3. The win capped off a week that also saw the Knights take down No. 2-ranked Augsburg 22-13.

The Coe dual, Knights Gym's last because of the new wellness center, was also senior night, recognizing seven wrestlers who had racked up 441 total career wins entering the night.

"You look at this group, and it's been one of the best groups ever to come through in our history," head coach Jim Miller said. "And it's going to be tough to let

them go. But we're going to hold onto them for another month and enjoy those guys in our line-up."

The Knights got off to a fast start when No. 1-ranked senior Tyler Hubbard recorded a pin in 4:45 at 125 pounds. Freshman 133-pounder Zach McKray followed that with a 6-0 win.

The only loss on the night for Wartburg came at 141 pounds, where senior Paul Reedy moved up two weights and lost to eighth-ranked Niles Mercer 6-1. No. 1-ranked senior Dustin Hinschberger had a mild ankle sprain and was held out of competition.

Wartburg won the next seven matches, including falls at 157 pounds by sophomore Justin Hanson in 2:57, 174 pounds by No.

1-ranked senior Scott Kauffman in 1:34 and heavyweight by No. 1-ranked junior Blake Gillis. Senior 165-pounder Dustin Bliven also collected a technical fall in 5:57.

Miller was happy to leave Knights Gym behind with a win.

"It was a pretty historic meet, actually. Since 1949 we've been wrestling here. It means a lot to people—the gym does. It's certainly been good to us in wrestling and to many other sports."

Wednesday, the Knights squared off with rival Augsburg in the annual Battle of the 'Burgs. Wartburg got out to a 12-3 lead but needed to win the last three matches in order to secure the 22-13 victory.

Wartburg started the meet with a 17-8 major decision from

Hubbard. After Jafari Vanier defeated sophomore Jake Helvey by an 8-6 decision, the Knights received back-to-back major decisions from Hinschberger and No. 2-ranked sophomore Jacob Naig at 149 pounds.

But Augsburg was not going to let a repeat of the National Duals, where Wartburg won 29-6, happen. The Auggies won three straight matches, including a stunning upset at 174-pounds by No. 5-ranked Robbie Gotreau over Kauffman, who was previously unbeaten.

"They made some good adjustments and things," Miller said. "But I just didn't think we wrestled well. Obviously, we had a different lineup at a few weights. It's just one of those things. I don't think it was our best night overall."

With the Auggies on top 13-12, Wartburg needed someone to change the momentum. That person came in No. 3-ranked senior 174-pounder Akeem Carter. Carter rode out Kirk Rall in the third period to secure a 4-0 decision, giving Wartburg the lead for good.

"Just being a senior, I'm try-

ing to be a leader," Carter said. "That's what I want to do. That's how the team works. When somebody falls, then the next person has to pick up that person."

Senior Ryan Philips picked up an 8-3 win at 197 pounds and Gillis ended the meet with a major decision, 10-0.

"Obviously we're happy to win," Miller said. "We beat a very good Augsburg team. But I didn't think it was our best effort. It'll probably be good for us to go back to the drawing board on some of those things. And it may be a good thing. It may be a wake-up call for us."

One of the things the Knights are going to work on is on the edge of the mat, where Augsburg picked up some cheap points.

"Obviously that's a key, especially with the new rule," Miller said. "You need one guy with one toe in and you still wrestle. We had some guys letting up on the edge of the mat. You can win and lose championships right there on the edge of the mat. So that's one of the spots where we're going to have to re-focus."

After this week's big wins, the Knights feel they are ready to make a push for the postseason.

"We're going to have a couple of flaws in the middle of the season," Carter said. "But the big picture, the big painting is winning the title, team unity and all of that. That's what I'm really looking for, is the national title."

The Knights, now 26-0, next take the mat for their final dual at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Buena Vista. They then have the Iowa Conference tournament Thursday, Feb. 16 in Pella before the National Tournament March 3 and 4 at The College of New Jersey.

E-mail Richard Podhajsky at
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Luke Shanno/SPORTS INFORMATION

WORKIN' ON THE SIDE—No. 1-ranked senior 125-pounder Tyler Hubbard tries to work a half-nelson Saturday against Coe. Hubbard pinned his opponent in 4:45 to move to 13-0 on the season.

IIAC Standings

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| #1 Wartburg | 7-0 |
| #3 Luther | 6-1 |
| #6 Loras | 6-2 |
| #19 Coe | 4-3 |
| #18 Cornell | 3-4 |
| #16 B.V. | 3-4 |
| #25 Dubuque | 2-5 |
| #29 Simpson Central | 1-6 |
| | 0-7 |

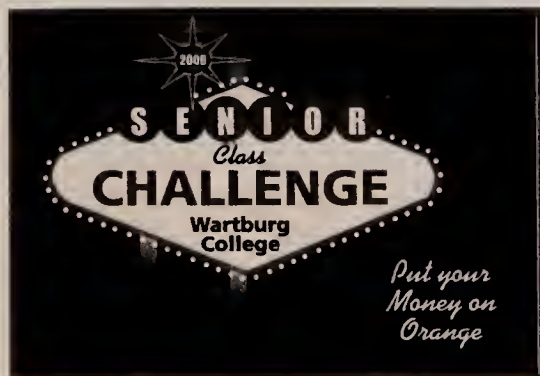
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Turnovers haunt women in losses

By ABBY SHOWALTER
Sports Writer

The women's basketball team's troubles continued as two road losses dropped the Knights to eighth in the IIAC standings.

Saturday, the Knights took on the Coe College Kohawks on the road. The Knights fought all game to overtake Coe, but never managed to get over an early deficit and lost 67-57.

Sophomore Ashton Donahue led Wartburg with 12 points, scoring four 3-pointers in the second half. Junior Tarah Mulder also posted a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Coe got off to a fast start, scoring eight straight points to open the game. Wartburg junior Laura Pirkel ended the scoring drought with a layup 4:50 into the game.

Wartburg cut into Coe's lead throughout the half, resulting in only a four-point deficit at half.

Coe scored in flurries in the second half, giving the Knights all they could handle, leading by 19 with 6:42 left in the game.

Wartburg wasn't done yet, hitting three 3-pointers to pull within six with just over a minute

left, but Wartburg would come no closer and lost by 10.

The Knights provided a balanced attack despite the loss, as every player on the team played significant minutes and scored.

Wartburg traveled to Luther Wednesday night but dropped another game in a 72-44 loss.

Luther, ranked second in the IIAC, clinched an automatic berth to the conference tourney with the win over Wartburg.

The Norse opened up the scoring, but the Knights quickly rebounded and took a four-point lead just over 10 minutes in off a jumper by junior LaToshia Burrell. Wartburg's lead was short-lived and the Norse took over by halftime, leading 36-25.

The Knights hung on for as long as possible but couldn't get away from Luther's tough defense that caused the Knights to turn the ball over 29 times and allowed the Norse 17 steals.

Sophomore Megan Hendricks led all scorers with 13 points.

The women have a light schedule this week, only hosting Loras at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

E-mail Abby Showalter at
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W A R T B U R G T R U M P E T

SPORTS

Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence

February 6, 2006

IN MOTION—

Senior Joel Formanek drives past a Luther defender in Wartburg's 66-65 loss in Decorah on Wednesday.

Roland Ferrie/
TRUMPET



Roadhouse blues

Luther, Coe end nine-game win streak

By AARON HAGEN
Assistant Sports Editor

The No. 11-rated Wartburg men's basketball team rarely feels the pain of a loss, but last week the team felt that pain twice and turned a nine-game winning streak into a two-game losing streak. The losses to Luther and Coe were on the road and against teams with good home records.

"Luther actually was 6-1 at home going into that game, so they had played very well at home," head coach Dick Peth said. "With the Coe game, I think they had won eight in a row prior to us coming in."

Saturday, Wartburg traveled to Coe to try to repeat the same magic in the previous meeting between these two teams. The Knights jumped out to a six-point lead early in the first half behind a 3-pointer by junior Nick Gullickson but quickly lost the lead and soon were down by 15 to the Kohawks. Wartburg battled back to within 10, and the halftime deficit was 42-32.

The Knights came as close as three points with just over eight minutes left in the game but could not regain the lead as Coe went on to the 75-65 win.

"With the Coe game, we did a decent job at times, especially in the second half," Peth said. "We gave up 42 in the first half. You aren't going to win on the road giving

up that many points in a half."

Senior Jason Steege led the Knights with 16 points, while senior Rance Cartmill had 12. Senior Nate Schmidt had 10 points and grabbed a team-leading nine rebounds.

Wartburg's travel to Luther Wednesday proved to be a closer game but ended with the same result. Both teams fought in the first half, as the biggest lead by either team was six points by Luther with almost three minutes left. Wartburg scored two baskets and cut the lead to 33-32 at half.

The Knights came out in the second half and tried to put Luther away, building as much as a five-point lead. However, the Norse would not go quietly, going on a run themselves to gain a seven-point lead with just three minutes left.

Down by three with 14 seconds left, Wartburg had a shot to win, but could only muster a jumper by Cartmill as time expired and fell 66-65.

Steege led all scorers with 21 points on eight of 18 shooting. Cartmill scored 14 points in the loss, while Schmidt scored 10 points and brought down 11 rebounds.

"We were on a winning streak, and we kind of got complacent and weren't playing up to our ability level," Steege said. "We went into the game probably thinking that we can show up and win, and that's not going to happen in this conference,

especially if you have to go on the road."

While the two setbacks hurt Wartburg's chances of winning the regular season conference title outright, neither Peth nor Steege is pushing the panic button.

"There's a lot of basketball to play," Peth said. "But we need to refocus ourselves and take care of business from here on out and let the chips fall where they may. We can't worry about what other teams are doing. We need to worry about ourselves."

"We can't sit around and complain about it," Steege said. "We have to get focused on this game on Tuesday, because it's a huge game for us. We enjoy playing in front of our fans. We feed off them and we get a lot of energy from our fans, so it's going to be a big advantage for us coming home and having our fans behind us."

"We lost to [Loras] the first time, but it was by one point and we feel we have made some improvement since then."

Wartburg falls to 17-4 overall and 10-3 in the conference and now sits behind Coe for the IAC lead. This week, the Knights host Loras at 8 p.m. Tuesday. Loras defeated Wartburg 64-63 in the first meeting between the two teams.

E-mail Aaron Hagen at
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Long trip doesn't hinder tracksters

By ADAM HARRINGA
Sports Writer

The men's and women's track teams competed at the Minnesota State-Mankato Open Saturday.

"The women had a really good meet in general," junior Bridget Burns said. "There were a lot of personal bests and national qualifiers."

Burns provisionally qualified for nationals in the 400 and the 4x400, which were two of the six events to nationally qualify on the day.

In the 400, Burns was second overall in a time of 57.9.

In the 4x400, Burns anchored a team that included junior Amy Koester, senior Ashley Williams and freshman Akeye Aimable.

"I know we can improve from here," Burns said. "It's nice to get a qualifying time and our name on the list. It'll be good to have Steph [Arey] back next week."

Also on the women's side, freshman Nicole Calabrese won the mile in a provisionally qualifying time of 5:03.40. This is the second event in which she has qualified in as many attempts. She qualified in the 800 last week at the ISU Open.

Junior Lucy Joseph ran an

8.45 in the final of the 55 hurdles, placing third. Joseph was already on the national list but improved her standing with a new personal best.

Senior Keith Solverson turned in the first provisionally qualifying race for the men this season. Solverson placed fourth in the mile with a time of 4:15.76.

"The race got out really fast, so I just sat back and ran an evenly paced race and was able to move up," Solverson said. "Hopefully I improve on that in the next couple weeks."

Also provisionally qualifying for the men was the 4x400

team, consisting of senior Josh Hauser, juniors Scott Tjeerdsma and Jason Crosser and sophomore Derek Stephens. Their time of 3:20.32 placed first.

"We came in with the goal of qualifying, so overall we're happy about it," Stephens said. "It was a good race, but we know we can improve. The next couple of weeks we'll have to step up and run faster."

This week the teams will compete at the Warhawk Classic in Whitewater, Wis. The men will compete on Friday and the women will run Saturday.

E-mail Adam Harringa at
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Rich Rites

IOWA LOOKS ELSEWHERE
FOR FOOTBALL RECRUITS

February is upon us and that means college football national letter of intent signing day has come and gone. This year, however, is different than most for the state of Iowa.

Of the 18 recruits who signed Feb. 1 at the University of Iowa, none, not one, was an in-state prospect.

Some may look at this and say it is terrible that Iowa has become "too good" for local talent.

That's exactly the point, though. Iowa has risen to a point in the national scene where it can go out and get top-notch talent.

In case you hadn't noticed, the state of Iowa is not necessarily a hot bed for football talent. There are definitely some very talented athletes, but there's a reason Texas, Miami and Ohio State are always good. That's where the population is and the talent lies.

It's like Norm Parker said about Iowa's lack of in-state recruits compared to Iowa State's a few years back. Different people look at a painting and some people see one thing and others see another. This year Iowa saw a Picasso rather than a Michelangelo.

What this means is that Iowa's national reputation is actually a good thing for football in the state. Admittedly, I am an Iowa fan. But it seems obvious to me that Iowa gets more of the most highly touted in-state recruits than does Iowa State.

Keep in mind that highly touted does not necessarily mean better. Generally, though, it does.

This year's recruiting class for Iowa should then create a positive trickle-down effect for every college in the state.

Iowa State should be able to attract some of those top recruits that normally would go to Iowa.

And UNI, still on a major high from last year, should have no problem picking up some of those top in-state prospects.

This trickle-down will flow all the way down to the Iowa Conference and Wartburg College. Wartburg normally has to wait out the Div. I and Div. II schools before scraping through the kitchen for its food. Now what's left is more than just a leg or a thigh. There are whole plates of food.

Wartburg has done a great job recruiting across the state, one of the reasons it has been able to maintain a top-tier Div. III program over the last four years. Just imagine what Wartburg can do if it no longer has to lick its plate clean in order to fill a roster.

And, of course, just because no Iowa high school players signed a letter of intent on Feb. 1 does not mean Iowa won't add a few to its roster anyway. Coach Kirk Ferentz would not comment on Davenport Central star Julian Vandervelde, but he is expected to join the team this fall. And there will most definitely be the walk-ons, which Iowa has a history of turning into all-Big Ten material.

But the bigger point is that Iowa has finally gone nationwide.

And the whole state is benefiting.

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